

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 38

By Cobb J

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Felix Abel, Senior Olympics gold medal bowler.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to specially recognize those amateur athletes who, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of the State; and

WHEREAS, eighty-nine-year-old bowler Felix Abel is one such estimable Tennessee athlete; he will be competing in the 2009 Chattanooga District Senior Olympics, to be held May 4 – 9, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Abel will be bowling in the ninety-to-ninety-five age division for the first time this year; as a competitor in the eighty-five-to-eighty-nine division, he has medaled on both the district and state levels and is currently the state individual gold medalist; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated bowler for well over forty years, Felix Abel regularly bowls 279 to 289 out of three hundred, with no handicap, and his lifetime best score is 289 in league play and 712 in series; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Abel began bowling in Dayton in 1961, but a fire at his local lanes forced him and his teammates to relocate their league games to Hixson; soon, he was bowling regularly in Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, the lasting friendships have been for Mr. Abel the most interesting and compelling of the many benefits of bowling; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of the area, Mr. Abel graduated from Rhea County High School and before enrolling at Tennessee Technological University, from which he earned a bachelor's degree in Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, after college, Mr. Abel served during World War II as a ground mechanic in the Army Air Corps, working on B-17 bombers; and

WHEREAS, following his war-time service, Felix Abel attended the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, where he completed post-graduate work in the area of business and accounting; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Abel worked at Robinson Manufacturing for thirty-eight years, after which he retired to his family farm in Dayton; and

WHEREAS, currently, Felix Abel resides at the farm on which he was raised; it was originally purchased by his grandfather in 1919 and served as a dairy farm until 1965, when the family converted it to accommodate beef cattle; and

WHEREAS, sustained in no small part by his faith, Mr. Abel has been a member of the First Baptist Church of Dayton his whole life; and

WHEREAS, when he competes in May, he will face bowlers from Hamilton, Marion, and Sequatchie Counties as well as bowlers from North Georgia and Alabama; he is wholly deserving of our commendation and recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor Felix Abel on his nearly fifty years of success on the bowling lanes and wish him the best of luck as he competes at the 2009 Chattanooga District Senior Olympics in May.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.